ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

FFR 262016

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

BEVERLEE T. CAMBURN, LPN License # 26NP03777600

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TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Beverlee T. Camburn ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. On or about April 25, 2012, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2012," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2012. Respondent answered "Yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.
- 3. Upon receipt of information indicating that Respondent was arrested on November 9, 2013 by the Vineland Police Department for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1A (Simple Assault); N.J.S.A. 2C:12-3A (Threaten to Commit Crime); N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4 (Possession of Weapon for Unlawful Purpose); and N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5 (Unlawful Possession of a Weapon), the Board sent a letter of inquiry requesting certain information and documents regarding the criminal matter, Respondent's nursing practice, and continuing education to Respondent's mailing address in

Vineland, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about November 15, 2013. The regular mailing was not returned and the receipt of the certified mailing was signed upon delivery on December 3, 2013.

- 4. Upon receipt of information indicating that Respondent was arrested on November 16, 2013 by the New Jersey State Police for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1A (Simple Assault), the Board sent a letter of inquiry requesting certain information and documents regarding the criminal matter, Respondent's nursing practice, and continuing education to Respondent's mailing address in Vineland, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about November 22, 2013. The regular mailing was not returned and the receipt of the certified mailing was signed upon delivery.
- 5. Respondent provided a partial response and indicated that the November arrests occurred after she had been drinking quite heavily for four days. Respondent maintained that after the arrests she was admitted into a mental health unit and subsequently began residing at an out-of-state rehabilitation center. Respondent provided a further update on the status of her case, advised the Board that she would be going to court in July 2014, and indicated that she would be continuing to reside at the rehabilitation center until July 2014. Respondent

provided no further information or documentation to the Board and failed to provide the following information about both arrests: complaints, police reports, dispositions, and proof of payment of any fines. Respondent also failed to provide any documentation of completion of continuing education.

- 6. On or about April 27, 2014, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2014," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2014. Respondent answered "Yes" and certified that answer by submitting the online application.
- 7. The Board received information indicating that on September 15, 2014, a Judge of the Vineland Municipal Court dismissed all the charges from the November 9, 2013 arrest.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to fully respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, which the Board deems professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and also subjects Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), nurses are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), nurses are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

By virtue of having failed to respond to the letter of inquiry, Respondent is deemed to have failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that Respondent completed the continuing education credits required for renewal during the biennial period of June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2012. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b) and 13:37-5.3(f), which in turn subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's use of dishonesty and misrepresentation during the license renewal process in falsifying her continuing education information constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjecting Respondent to sanctions.

Lastly, Respondent's criminal arrests, statement that she had been heavily drinking for four days when she knew she shouldn't drink, admission to a mental health unit, and residence in a rehabilitation facility raises sufficient concern

such that testing, monitoring, evaluation, and treatment are warranted, as a condition for continued or reinstated licensure, to evaluate whether Respondent's continued practice as a nurse may jeopardize the safety and welfare of the public pursuant to  $\underline{N.J.S.A.}$  45:1-22(f) and to ensure that Respondent can properly discharge nursing functions pursuant to  $\underline{N.J.S.A.}$  45:1-22(e).

## DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, a Provisional Order of Discipline ("POD") was filed on June 23, 2015 based upon Respondent's failure to fully cooperate with a Board investigation regarding her arrests and continuing education violations. The POD sought a reprimand, civil penalty, suspension of Respondent's license until she provides a complete response to the Board's letters of inquiry and is up to date with her continuing education and requires that Respondent obtain a comprehensive mental health Board's designated abuse evaluation with the substance intervention program, the Recovery And Monitoring Program ("RAMP").

The POD was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of

Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

the POD, Respondent provided In response to the dispositions showing that all of the charges against her were However, Respondent still failed to provide the other outstanding information and documentation requested by the Board in the letters of inquiry. Regarding continuing education, Respondent provided no documentation of continuing education for the periods 6/1/10-5/31/12, 6/1/12-5/31/14 and 6/1/14-5/31/16. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited modification of the POD.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this day of the day of the day of the day of the day of d

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing is suspended until Respondent a) provides all the requested information in the Board's November 15, 2013 and November 22, 2013 letters of inquiry, and b) provides proof of completion of 30 hours of

June 1, 2010 to the time of reinstatement (30 hours for June 1, 2010 - May 31, 2012, 30 hours for June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014, plus any hours completed within the current period of June 1, 2014 - May 31, 2016).

- 2. The Board will not entertain an application for reinstatement from Respondent unless and until Respondent completes a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation under the auspices of RAMP, demonstrates that she is fit and competent to practice nursing, that she is in full compliance with any agreement with RAMP, that RAMP supports her return to practice, answers all inquiries regarding her arrests to the satisfaction of the Board, and demonstrates that she is up to date with her continuing education.
- 3. By undergoing evaluation, Respondent expressly waives any claim of privilege or confidentiality that she may have concerning RAMP reports and disclosures to the Board, and use by the Board of that information in any proceedings.
- 4. All costs associated with the evaluation, monitoring, and/or treatment outlined above shall be the responsibility of, and paid directly by, Respondent.
  - 5. A reprimand is imposed on Respondent for falsifying

the continuing education information on her license renewal application.

- Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750). Said penalty is an aggregate penalty, which includes a penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) for failure to cooperate with a Board investigation and a penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for failing to timely complete required continuing education. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.
- 7. Respondent shall refrain from practicing as a nurse and shall not represent herself as a Licensed Practical Nurse until such time as her license is reinstated. Any practice in

this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary information that Respondent proceedings based upon any ultimately provides in response to the letter of inquiry or upon any new information the Board receives.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Board President